

## THE RICHMOND DISPATCH.

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FRIDAY, APRIL 7, 1899.

## THE MAY CONFERENCE.

Some writers speak of the gathering of Democrats which is to take place here on the 11th of May as a "conference," while others call it a "convention." We prefer the latter term, though the name is not a matter of great importance. But in political matters we are accustomed to associate with the name of "convention" a body whose members have been elected by certain constituencies. In this case there may be, and doubtless will be, present gentlemen who have been chosen at public meetings, and who represent counties, but there will be many others who come as individual Democrats in response to the call.

The call, as issued on the 26th of March, extends an invitation to all Democrats who are ready to unite with the signers in a movement looking to the amendment of the Federal Constitution, so as to provide for the election of senators by the direct vote of the people, and, until that change can be effected, the nomination of our candidates by some popular method.

Therefore, the two requisites for membership in the conference are: First, that the man shall be a Democrat; second, that he shall be in favor of the aforesaid change in the Constitution, and, until that change is made, is desirous of seeing the senatorial nominations of our party made by some popular method.

It ought to count largely in favor of the objects and aims of this conference that the Virginia delegation in the House of the last Congress put itself upon record in favor of a change in the Constitution; also, that the House has repeatedly proposed such an amendment, though it has never been able to secure the co-operation of the Senate.

All the information which comes to us is that the May conference will be attended by a great number of people. The hotels and boarding-houses of Richmond are putting their premises in order for the entertainment of a large crowd. The Dispatch hopes that the gathering will not only be imposing in numbers and material, but that every section of the State will be represented. We presume that the railroad and steamboat companies will make as low rates for tickets to Richmond on this occasion as they have ever made for any political convention or gathering in this State.

Some of our contemporaries seem to doubt whether there will be any practical business brought to the attention of the conference. That is a curious idea. The fifty-odd Democrats who issued the address to our people calling for this conference surely would not have asked their friends to meet there here unless they expected to have a sensible scheme to propose. We are sure that there will be an important plan of procedure offered to the conference for adoption. What it will be we do not profess to know. We doubt if any one knows precisely, but some of the most sagacious public men in Virginia have their "thinkings" on, and will, no doubt, interchange views with one another before the day for the meeting of the conference.

Of course, the May conference will not be entitled to legislate for the Democratic party of Virginia, but any recommendations that it makes may be expected to have great weight with the party.

If you are a Democrat, and if you are sincerely of the opinion that the Federal Constitution should be amended so as to confer upon the people the right to elect their senators by direct vote, and if you are further of the opinion that, until this change can be effected, our nominations should be made by some popular method, you are invited to attend. If you are accredited as the representative of your county, or city, so much the better.

## THE BELGICA EXPEDITION.

Inveigh as some papers may against the "foolhardiness" of polar exploration, the general public will await with intense interest the details of the experience of the Belgian southern polar expedition, whose ship, the Belgica, with her party, has just arrived at Punta Arenas, Straits of Magellan.

From this point the Belgica sailed in December, 1897, and her party spent one entire winter and portion of another in the Antarctic circle, something that had never happened before.

Up to the time of the Belgica venture no Antarctic exploring party had ever

gotten nearer to the pole than within 720 miles of it, and while the meagre advices from the returning voyagers do not state that this is the case, the presumption is that this distance has been vastly cut down. Moreover, there is reason to believe that the success of the expedition has been so great that hereafter as persistent effort will be made to unlock the secrets of the southern frozen zone, as have been directed to the solving of the mysteries of the Arctic circle.

## REPUBLICAN "TIMBER."

Recent events have shown that Governor Roosevelt is completely under the thumb of Senator Tom Platt, "the easy boss."

That Teddy has surrendered his independence so early is proof that he is an aspirant for the presidential nomination. Circumstances will determine whether he will enter the race or not next year, but it is clear that he has the bee in his bonnet and knows that he can make little progress without the aid of Senator Platt. But there are other bosses to be consulted—Hanna, Quay, and Addicks, for instance!

Speaker Reed is also an aspirant for presidential honors, but he is scarcely as strong with his party as he was some years ago. He lacks the personal magnetism that Mr. Roosevelt possesses, and, besides, he hasn't a distinctive military record. Grant, Hayes, Garfield, Harrison, and McKinley all had military records, which were more or less useful to them in politics.

The Republicans thought it fine fun to see the Speaker "sit down" upon Democratic and Democratic measures, but many of them were so much pleased when at the last session of Congress they saw him thwarting the aims of some of the big men in his own party. Again, Mr. Reed is very weak in his devotion to the policy of expansion, which has now become a great Republican canon.

We do not want to see any more Republican Presidents. If Reed were elected he would carry to the White House his tyrannical disposition and deep-seated hatred of the South. If Roosevelt were chosen, Platt would be his Hanna, while McKinley has well-nigh exhausted the patience of the country with his protection of Alger and the beef contractors and his persecution of General Miles.

Mr. Sidney Lee, for eight years the editor of the great British "Dictionary of National Biography," has just completed a masterly work on William Shakespeare, which gives us some entirely new ideas about the great bard of Avon, and shows us that even in his own day and time he was properly appreciated. According to Lee's biography Shakespeare was a man of wealth, and enjoyed all the luxuries of life. His father and mother before him were people of good standing. The former was chief alderman of his town, and gave his son a very good education for those days.

The average reader of a biography in the Elizabethan and Jacobean times seldom realizes that a pound sterling then was equivalent to at least \$40 now, a fact which expands some seemingly small sums into very substantial ones. Mr. Lee, for example, says that Shakespeare's average income for several years was \$120. This when reduced to our present currency by the methods indicated above would give the poet an income of \$5,200. After the year 1599 Shakespeare's interest in the Globe Theatre and a number of other investments increased his annual income to \$200. This would represent about \$24,000 in our money.

It appears from data at Mr. Lee's command that the great bard was a first-class business-man, and did not part with his money so readily as has been supposed. He annually laid aside about £100 (\$4,000) as provision for a rainy day, and in his will disposed of £1,250, which represents about \$50,000 American dollars.

From these substantial figures it will be seen that "Sweet William's" glory was not entirely posthumous, and that he lived to enjoy and amass substantial fruits from his master mind. For several years of his life his income was almost as much as that of our Presidents who preceded Grant.

Historians and historical societies throughout the length and breadth of the Anglo-Saxon world have recently been shocked to learn that the plains of Abraham, on the suburbs of Quebec, are to be cut up into building lots and decorated by the unsentimental hand of modern civilization. It was on this picturesque spot that the English, under the command of the brave General Wolfe, successfully repulsed the French in September, 1759. And it was here, too, that both Wolfe and General Montcalm, the equally courageous French leader, received their death wounds and died "amid a blaze of glory." There are many interesting facts and legends associated with the history of Quebec, but this incident, above all others, stands forth with vivid distinctness in the minds of the tourist and student. Almost every school-child can tell you of Wolfe and the tragic circumstances attending his death.

It seems strange, indeed, that now, at a time when the flight of years has softened the bitterness engendered by those bloody wars between the French and English, so little respect should be paid to this famous battle-ground. It may be that the cry of universal disapprobation, which has gone forth in many lands, will check the threatened evil, though the whole scheme has been so deliberately entered into that there are grave reasons for apprehension.

Miss Bessie Golden, an Ohio girl, whose name doubtless suggests her good qualities, recently received a letter which was written under rather romantic circumstances. It was from a private of Company M, Twentieth Kansas Infantry, which is now in the Philippines, and purports to be written with the sharpened end of a bullet. The writer, who is personally unknown to Miss Golden, appears to be a promising youth, who doesn't allow his modesty to overcome him. He informed the young lady by way of introduction, that while in camp he accidentally found a piece of a Cleveland paper in which her name appeared. Being lonesome, and not intending to be impudent, he concluded to write to her. Then, after describing one of the battles in which many were wounded, he said: "I am O. K., but had some very close calls. I found some paper and cut a bullet for a pencil and your name caused this attempt. 'You may do as you please about answering. I come from a good family, and have as fair a reputation as any young man, full of life, can have.'"

Miss Golden has not said whether she will answer the letter or not. It will be a pity if she doesn't. To ignore the frank lad would keep her curiosity in perpetual suspense, and we believe no woman could stand the strain. And then, too, there's the romance of the thing to be considered.

## GET READY TO ANSWER.

An esteemed annexation organ remarks that the proclamation of the United States Philippine commissioners would seem a very promising document; also, that it offers conditions to the Filipinos that are extremely liberal. Another paper of the same stripe declares that the document outlines the policy and expresses the feelings of the American nation.

"Promising" is good, and "extremely liberal" conditions is still better. The proclamation promises what the Filipinos clearly do not want, and dictates conditions to a country we have invaded and harried, and whose people are engaged in butchery because they object to taking what the commissioners tell them they must receive. Moreover, the promises carry a repudiation of a moral pledge we made the Filipinos when we induced them to become our allies against Spain, and which they believed, and had a right to believe, gave them assurance of the realization of their long dream of independence. Nor does the grim irony and satire of the proceeding end here. The commissioners appear to have "assimilated" the grandiloquent style of the Spanish civilizers of the islands, and if the Filipinos are the savages, semi-savages, brigands, cut-throats, ingrates, and all-round degenerates the administration organs now hold that they are, unquestionably the proclamation was a case of "casting pearls before swine." Admitting that the annexation organs do not misjudge and misrepresent the character of the Filipinos, the commissioners would have saved themselves much time and wear and tear of brain, and with the result doubtless of bringing the islanders to their senses much more easily, had they simply promulgated the gist of their "liberal" conditions, which is, Bow to the McKinley yoke if you do not desire "benevolent assimilation" to the extent of extermination.

So much for the promises. As to the proclamation's outlining the policy and expressing the feelings of the American nation touching the Philippines, that declaration is the most barefaced assumption. The American nation has never had an opportunity to define its policy and record its sentiments on this subject. The whole Philippine job has been managed by Mr. McKinley and his cabal of imperialistic advisers and adherents. The proclamation of the Philippine commissioners discloses with marked distinctness the trail of the imperialistic and usurpation serpent, which was first seen in the demands of the President's peace commissioners, and subsequently became more manifest in the administration's "benevolent assimilation" deliverance.

"Our last greeting" to the Filipinos, through "our trusted and well-beloved commissioners," proves that it is not only "our Imperial purpose" to hold on to the islands, if possible, but to hold on to them as a colonial possession, and therefore in flagrant violation of the Constitution. The proclamation in outlining Mr. McKinley's policy spurns the fact that it is an established and fundamental principle of our system that we cannot acquire territory, except for the purpose of making of it a State or States. It matters not that nothing could be more undesirable than the incorporation of the Philippines into the sisterhood of States. The fact remains that in ignoring the principle in question, Mr. McKinley proclaims that he is greater than the Constitution, the father thereof, and the highest judicial tribunal in the land. The proclamation is the most undisguised expression of Mr. McKinley's imperialistic ambition that has yet been made, and is, so far, the crowning act of the administration's usurpation. What will the people have to say to all this in 1907? It is time they were getting ready to answer.

If Dr. John Contee Fairfax, of Maryland, were disposed to put on airs, he could find ample excuse for so doing. Though most unostentatious and simple in his way of living, he holds an English title of nobility, and is in fact a real British peer.

The Doctor has been "written up" by the New York Herald, and from that paper we learn that he is designated in the peerage records as the Right Honorable John Contee Fairfax, eleventh Baron Fairfax of Cameron, and the male representative of the famous parliamentary generals, the second and third Lords Fairfax. His title is a genuine one, and is everywhere recognized in Great Britain, though he is quite satisfied to ignore it in this democratic land.

Dr. Fairfax is 68 years old, and was born September 13, 1830, in Virginia. When but a lad the family left Virginia and moved to the Heights of Georgetown, where they resided for a number of years. After receiving an excellent education at Princeton, and graduating in medicine at the University of Pennsylvania he began the practice of his profession in the vicinity of the old Soldiers' Home, near the little village of Brookline.

The unpretentious nobleman and his family were strong southern sympathizers, and at the outbreak of the war were compelled to move to a point near Beltsville, Md. They now reside at Northampton, Md., on a 700-acre tract of land, which was purchased from the descendants of Governor Spriggs, a former Governor of Maryland.

Lord Fairfax—as he might call himself, if so inclined—is descended from an ancient Saxon family, which in more recent years figured prominently in English history. One of his ancestors moved to Virginia in the seventeenth century.

The old gentleman—for truly he is a gentleman in every sense—is proud of his splendid lineage, but frankly admits it has never brought him any substantial benefits. The formal communications which reach him from England usually contain requests for loans or subscriptions to charities.

Dr. Fairfax has seven grown children, and some of them are identified with prominent American interests. Angliomania has never affected the family.

Crocker is said to be for Carter Harrison now for the Democratic nomination for President, but, unfortunately for the proposition, Chicago and Tammany, though important in themselves, are not the whole country.

Pierpont Morgan has sailed for Europe, and the consequent New York question is, What's up?

## Let the People Elect Their Senators.

(Atlanta Constitution.)

In theory, the people do not elect their president. They vote for representatives known as electors, and these electors assemble on a certain day at the Capitol and cast their vote for the presidential candidate of their choice. In theory, this electoral college, as it is called, has the right to ignore the candidates nominated by the party, and select a man whose name has not been mentioned for the office, and the man so selected would be President of the United States.

In effect, however, the electoral college

## Men, Glad News!

**Happy Marriage, Health, Energy and Long Life.**

**MAGICALLY EFFECTIVE MEDICAL TREATMENT FOR WEAK MEN OF ALL AGES.**

**No Money in Advance.**

Wonderful appliance and scientific remedies sent on trial, to any reliable man. A world-wide reputation back of this offer. Every obstacle to happy married life removed. Full strength, development and tone given to every portion of the body. Failure impossible; age no barrier. Full account, with copy of new medical book, sent under plain letter seal on application.

**Erie Medical Co., Buffalo, N.Y.**  
(to 19-Su, W&F weew)

has already been abolished. It is a more clumsy apparatus, possessing no importance whatever. To vote for electors in the mere formality, though it sometimes happens that the President receiving the largest popular vote is not elected. In due time the people themselves will bring about a reform in this matter, but just at present they are interested in the movement to reform the present plan of electing senators.

A number of senators from the far Western States were chosen because of their wealth. Henry B. Payne defeated George H. Pendleton in Ohio in 1885 because he had the Standard Oil Company behind him. Calvin Bries, a citizen of New York, was made senator from Ohio on account of his money. Mark A. Hanna was similarly elected. In Delaware, a man named J. Edward Addicks has been elected to the Senate three times with his bank account. He says openly, according to report, that the senatorship is his, and that he will have it, or prevent any one else from getting it.

Addicks is not a citizen of Delaware in the true sense. He made his money elsewhere, partly by operating in gas stocks in Philadelphia. He bought his Delaware senatorship by contributing to the Republican campaign fund. If the matter were left in the hands of the people, Addicks would never be heard of as a candidate for the Senate. He has deprived the people of Delaware of a vote in the Senate.

In the Montana Legislature thousands of bills to the number of thirty were openly displayed as the alleged compensation offered for three votes for senator. The Legislature of Utah has adjourned without electing a senator. The Legislature of California, after a session made up of scandals, left a senatorial vacancy when it adjourned. The country is still enjoying the spectacle of the Quay deadlock in the Pennsylvania Legislature.

All these things go to show that the remedy for this state of things is to place the selection of senators in the hands of the people.

The Senate will lose nothing in dignity and impressiveness, but will gain in those qualities when its members feel that they represent the whole body of the people in their respective States, and are responsible to that body.

It is natural after these recent exhibitions of legislative weakness that the public should begin to look with distrust on the present method of selecting senators. The remedy is to elect them by the direct vote of the people.

## Acquisition to Richmond.

(Raleigh (N. C.) Post—6th.)

General P. H. Cameron, who for years has so ably and successfully represented the Virginia Life Insurance Company as general agent for this State, with headquarters in Raleigh, left yesterday to accept a more important position at the home office of the company in Richmond, and his headquarters will be in that city hereafter.

While sincerely congratulating our friend upon his promotion, we must express regrets that it involves his removal. He has been in Raleigh so long that he has come to be recognized as one of the permanent as well as pleasant fixtures of the community. We congratulate the city on the James on its acquisition.

## Spurgeon Stopped the Coughs.

(Exchange.)

Here is a good anecdote of the late Mr. Spurgeon: "One day, many years ago, the service at the Tabernacle was disturbed by a perfect hurricane of coughing. Spurgeon stopped in his discourse and said: 'My dear friends, I have a cough; you have coughs. But I think we can stop them if we try. So let us have a cough, a good cough, and a cough altogether. Now—' The result, says one who was present, was terrific, but after that a minute or so, Mr. Spurgeon concluded his sermon in perfect silence.

## Let the People Decide.

(Norfolk Ledger.)

In the matter of nominating or electing United States senators by direct vote of the people, it might be well to let the people themselves decide the proposition without regard to what possible aspirants for senatorial honors may think about it. If the present method of selecting senators is bad, and as it is, it is a grievous evil, and the time is ripe for a change. Let the people be heard on the subject.

## "The Conquered Banner."

(By Father J. Ryan.)

(Published by request.)

Furl that banner, for 'tis weary; Round that staff 'tis drooping dreary; Furl it, fold it, it is best; For there's not a man to wave it, And there's not a sword to save it, And there's not one left to lay it, In the blood which heroes gave it. And its foes now scorn and brave it, Furl it, hide it, let it rest.

Take that banner down! 'tis tattered, Broken is its staff and shattered, And the valiant hosts are scattered, Over whom it floated proudly. Oh! 'tis hard for us to fold it, Hard to think there's none to hold it, Hard that those who once unrolled it, Now must furl it with a sigh.

Furl that banner, furl it sadly— Once ten thousands hailed it gladly, And ten thousands with it madly, Furl it, fold it, it is best; Swore that foeman's sword could never Hearts like theirs entwined disave, Till that flag would float forever, O'er their freedom or their grave.

Furl it! for the hands that grasped it, And the hearts that fondly clasped it, Cold and dead are lying low, And the banner it is trailing. While around it sounds the wailing Of its people in their woe. For, though conquered, they adore it, Love the cold, dead hands that bore it, Weep for those who fell before it, Pardon those who trailed and tore it, And—oh! wildly they deplore it— Now to furl and fold it so.

Progress.

The quinine in Grove's Quinine Liver Pills makes them better than other liver pills. That is all. Price, 10 and 25 cents.

## WILLIAMSBURG.

The Hospital—A Birthday Party—Personal Notes.

WILLIAMSBURG, VA., April 6.—(Special.)—The Executive Committee of the Hospital Board met here to-day with a full attendance, except Colonel Walter H. Taylor, of Norfolk, who was unavoidably detained at home on important business. The committee directed a meeting of the board to be held Thursday, the 20th, when the executive officers of the institution will all be elected.

Mr. Benjamin Franklin Wolfe entertained a number of his friends at a birthday dinner last evening at his beautiful home, Avondale. The evening was spent very pleasantly in conversation, cards, and music. Refreshments were served about half-past 10 o'clock. The guests departed at a late hour, wishing their host many returns of his natal day. Among those present were Professor John S. Charles, Thomas G. Peachy, Leonard Henley, Jr., B. D. Peachy, M. R. Harrell, A. Schutte, and Colonel James T. Christian.

Among the arrivals here to-day were Judge John Stewart, of Chambersburg, Pa., who, in 1882, was the reform, or anti-Quay, candidate for Governor of Pennsylvania, and President S. A. Martin, of the Wilson Female College, Chambersburg. They have been guests at the Chamberlin, Old Point, and stopped over here, en route for Richmond. Mrs. Douglas H. Gordon, of Baltimore, nee Clark, of Newport News, accompanied by her sister, Miss Sallie Clark, also arrived this morning to see the places of interest in the ancient capital.

Miss Mary Cannon, of Norfolk, is visiting her friend, Miss Pettelus Lee. Miss Cannon will attend the Easter german at the "Inn" Friday night.

Mrs. L. W. Lane, after a visit to relatives in Baltimore, and her daughter, Mrs. E. T. Lamb, in Norfolk, returned home last evening.

Mr. H. G. Spencer left this evening for Toano to remain awhile with Mr. Cyrus A. Branch, whose condition shows not the slightest improvement.

Mr. W. C. Johnston, editor of the Gazette, leaves shortly on an extended trip west as far as Cincinnati.

Mr. C. P. Armistead, steward of the hospital, who has been sick for several days, is out again and at his post of duty, much to the gratification of his many friends.

## WINCHESTER.

Marriage—A Former Citizen Dies in Canada.

WINCHESTER, VA., April 6.—(Special.)—One of the leading social events of the season was the marriage here this afternoon of Miss Annie Hubbard Manning to Dr. Robert Wynne Stone. The ceremony took place at the residence of the bride's mother, Mrs. Annie Manning. The wedding was a quiet affair, only the intimate friends being present. Rev. Nelson P. Dunn, rector of Christ church, read the ceremony. The bride was given away by her brother, Mr. William J. Manning. The bridegroom was attended by Mr. Albert Baker as best man. After a reception and wedding dinner the couple left on a bridal trip north. Dr. Stone is one of Winchester's leading clergymen. Besides being a physician and druggist, he is part owner of the Old Dominion Paper-Mills, and is prominently identified in various business enterprises in this city and in Virginia.

Intelligence was received here this afternoon of the death of T. J. Shaw Sloane, a former merchant of this city. His death occurred in Ottawa, Canada, on March 20th, after a few days' illness of pneumonia. He was 38 years of age, and is survived by a wife, Mr. Shaw Sloane came to Winchester about four years ago and last spring failed in business. Shortly afterwards he left.

## The Better Plan.

(Staunton Spectator.)

Some people say they want to take the roads out of politics. The better plan would be to first get the roads out of the mud.

## Cuticura REMEDIES THE SET \$1.25

Consisting of CUTICURA SOAP, to cleanse the skin, CUTICURA Ointment, to heal the skin, and CUTICURA RESOLVENT, to cool the blood, is often sufficient to cure the most torturing, disfiguring skin, scalp, and blood humors, rashes, itching, and irritations, with loss of hair, when the best physicians, and all other remedies fail.

Sold everywhere. Price, THE SET, \$1.25; or CUTICURA SOAP, 50 CENTS; CUTICURA OINTMENT, 25 CENTS; CUTICURA RESOLVENT, 25 CENTS. Write for Circulars, and "How to Cure Humors," 64-page book, free.

## A Perfect Infant Food

**Gail Borden Eagle Brand Condensed Milk**

A PERFECT SUBSTITUTE FOR MOTHERS MILK. FOR 40 YEARS THE LEADING BRAND.

INFANT HEALTH SENT FREE. BY APPOINTMENT TO THE U. S. ARMY. N.Y. CONDENSED MILK CO., NEW YORK.

## McELREE'S WINE OF CARDUI

FOR FEMALE TROUBLES \$1.00 AT ALL DRUGGISTS

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Are the only hairdressers that will restore the hair to its original healthy condition. AT ALL DRUGGISTS.

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5500 BUNS 10 MACHINES.

AND THE EXCLUSIVE RIGHT TO operate in Richmond. Each machine produces 1000 buns per week, net. Same offer applies to Norfolk, Va.

For information with

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## Boys' Suits.

MAKERS OF THE CLOTHES THEY SELL.

We can sell you Boys' Suits cheaper than any other house in town. Our stock is the most complete we have ever shown. Double-Breasted Suits, Vestee Suits, Reefer Suits, Blouse Suits—the latest creations from the Fashion Centres in endless variety.

## SPECIAL VALUES.

Think of it! We fit your boy in a well-

69c. made, strong, tidy Suit, any age up to 16 years, for the small outlay of 69c. It is a suit that will give good service. If it did not we would not have it in our store.

95c. Blue Twill Knee Pants Suits, sizes to age 16, would be good value for \$1.25.

25c. Strictly All-Wool Knee Pants, that cannot be bought anywhere under 50c., all sizes, made like all high-priced Knee Pants—only 25c.

BOYS' HATS, SHIRTS, HOSE, SHIRT-WAISTS.

MAKERS OF THE CLOTHES THEY SELL.

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All of the latest Songs, Cake-Walks, Two-Steps, Marches, Polkas, Operas, Exercises, Instruction Books, etc.

A Few Popular Songs

The Girl I Love in Sunny Tennessee.

The Rose of Tennessee.

Just as the Sun Went Down.

Moth and the Flame.

They'll All Join In.

She Was Bred in Old Kentucky.

INSTRUMENTAL.

Whistling Rufus (Mills.)

Charlatan (Souza.)

Georgia Camp-Meeting (Mills.)

Uncle Jasper's Jubilee (Paull.)

One dollar will buy a number of these pieces.